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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

IPF: (1992-1996) $9 455 000

(IRA/91/004) - Feasibility Study for Isfahan Metropolitan Mass Transit System

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	26 February 1992
Expected duration:	One year
Proposed executing agency:	Government (National execution)
Government implementing agency:	Isfahan Metro Company
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 500 000 Source of funds: IPF
Government cost sharing:	$ 700 000
Total UNDP budget:	$1 200 000

Project background

The problem of a mass transit system for Isfahan Metropolitan area in the Islamic Republic of Iran has been under study ever since the establishment of the Isfahan Steel Mill in 1973. A transport sector study undertaken by the Swedish Volvo Company in 1976 suggested the establishment of a light urban rail network. However, due to the Islamic Revolution of early 1979 and subsequent developments, conditions were not conducive to the implementation of the above consultant's recommendations. In 1987 the province's planning commission started a comprehensive transport review study, under the auspices of the Isfahan Traffic and Transport Organization. Upon the completion of the review in fall 1991, the Isfahan Metro Company was set up to carry the study to the design and actual implementation phases for a mass transit system.

The Isfahan Metro Company has a shareholding structure made up of 51 per cent private shareholders (municipal authorities in the Isfahan Metropolitan area) and 49 per cent public (major state-owned enterprises in the area, e.g. Isfahan and Mobarakeh Steel Mills). To establish a rapid mass transit system in the suburban area and the city of Isfahan, and operate and expand them both, the Government requested UDNP assistance under the present approval.

[1] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

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The Isfahan Metro Company has made some preliminary contacts in its effort to locate a suitable subcontractor to carry out the required feasibility study, including adequate provision for on-the-job training and effective transfer of technology. UNDP assistance is sought to help ensure that the human resources development sub-objective of the study is met. The Government feels that with UNDP participation it will be easier to request the subcontractor to look at the job as a developmental task, rather than a simple turnkey commercial contract.

Description of project

The development objective of the project is to promote sustainable development of the Isfahan Metropolitan area, as one of the major industrial zones in the country.

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) establish preliminary design and cost estimates for an environmentally sound and financially cost effective mass transit system for the Isfahan Metropolitan area; and (b) create a cadre of Iranian experts able to carry out similar exercises on their own in the future. Project activities will include: (a) preparation of a full feasibility study, including a preliminary design of the recommended system; (b) involving Iranian engineers closely in the entire process in order to impart on-the-job training and ensure effective transfer of technology; (c) producing a feasibility study report, including materials to use for preparing tender documents for the establishment of the recommended system; and (d) training 10 Iranian engineers in the implementation of such feasibility studies.

Inputs

UNDP will provide approximately 50 work-months of consultancy services and required computer hardware and software through a subcontract; four work-months of a TOKTEN consultancy; three study tours, office equipment; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	20 000
Subcontract	1 150 000
Training	10 000
Equipment	10 000
Miscellaneous	10 000
Total	1 200 000

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